

NEWS OF ARMY, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

Army Paper Criticizes Secretary Garrison for "Woeful Muddle in Congress." Social Activities of Posts and Navy Yards Told in Dispatches

"The woeful muddle of army legislation with which the important subject of the improvement and enlargement of the military establishment is introduced to the consideration of the Sixty-fourth Congress is attributable to the failure of the Secretary of War to acquire accurate information concerning the legislative situation and his refusal to avail himself of advice which, if accepted, would have prevented the confusion and discussion that now threaten to block the attempts to achieve something worth while in House and Senate," says the Army and Navy Register.

"Mr. Garrison has announced that the War Department has no measure to present and he has, by a statement to the newspapers, sought to detract from the importance and influence of the report of the General Staff, the full facilities of which body he has, moreover, failed to employ and apply to his own enlightenment and to the advantage of the army itself."

"It is stated that there was an intention on the part of Mr. Garrison to suppress the recommendations of the General Staff because the comments from that quarter did not meet with his approval and because he regarded the plan of increase and reorganization as costing too much. Neither reason excuses such a proceeding."

"The General Staff was created for the very purpose of considering a problem such as now confronts Congress without, of course, the obligation of adoption by Congress. The House and Senate military committees are entitled to receive all the information and suggestions that are possible. In order to frame legislation which will be of the greatest value to the army and it should not be necessary to extract these aids by ingenious processes or by coercion."

Bill Widely Different.

"So far as the War Department is concerned, the chairman of the military committee are left to their own devices to prepare bills for committee consideration. This, Mr. Hay and Mr. Chamberlain, have done with widely differing results, so that the session opens with two army measures as unlike in character and provision as it is possible to have them and be devoted to the same object. It was hoped that, as a starting point, as a convenience if for nothing else, there would be one bill which would become the basis of committee discussion and furnish the text upon which hearings could proceed."

"With the two committees operating independently, as is now assured by the existing circumstances, the problem is made that much more difficult of solution and the situation is complicated beyond any necessity, with a corresponding

opportunity for delays, controversies and the defeat of some important legislation of benefit to the military personnel and organization."

"The first question to be determined by the leaders in Congress, of course, will be the matter of cost in its relation to the revenues of the government, increased by special legislation to meet the added expense of an improved national defense and the other projects which will engage the attention of Congress. It may be said, as it is repeatedly and emphatically remarked in some quarters, that any expense, no matter how much in excess of Federal income, is justified when it comes to preparedness and a fitness to adequately meet an enemy; that is the sagacious military point of view which, it should be remembered, is not taken and will not be unqualifiedly accepted by the legislature."

Opinions Will Be Restrained.

"There will be, too, much question among both Democrats and Republicans as to the details of any bill which is reported from committee and the progress of army legislation will be resisted at every step, even should it be possible to provide, for example, a unanimous report from the House committee on the Hay bill, which is likely to be the first reported for debate and which is destined to be referred, as compared with the Chamberlain bill, as having the best chances of being favorably considered by either House or Senate."

"The task of meeting the objections to army legislation should not be overlooked as existing in Congress, despite the public sentiment that has been finally aroused to an appreciation of the need of doing something. It is, finally, a matter of compromise, with concessions that will be exacted by, and must be made, those of sufficient influence to successfully block legislation, even when it is of a character that is demanded by the situation and justified by the needs of the country."

"It is intended to hold hearings before the House military committee without reservation or limitation. The War Department will be asked to designate those who have views to express and undoubtedly the members of the committee will ask that other experts, military and civilian, be called. The great difficulty which will be encountered by the committee is in the direction of obtaining testimony which is not influenced, directly or indirectly, by the Secretary of War."

"It is apprehended, and with abundant reason, that there will be few army officers who feel that it is their

duty to place themselves in the perilous position of opposing Mr. Garrison's views, despite assurances from the Secretary of War that no harm can or will be visited upon a severe critic."

"The fact that the War Department, largely because of Mr. Garrison's personal policy in this particular, has stifled all public expression and has discouraged even the exchange of opinions on the part of army officers, will do much to deprive the military committees of candid opinions and unrestricted suggestions that would be of the greatest value in passing upon the provisions of the Hay bill, which contains much that is obviously incorporated in the committee print of the measure for the purpose of discussion and with the idea of being taken out or materially modified if retained."

"One of the most unfortunate conditions of the whole program of army legislation in its initial stage is the chance that the House and Senate military committees will find it so difficult to acquire the views and recommendations of individual officers who are bound to feel the restraint which has been imposed upon them and which is no less a restraint because it is not promulgated in general orders or in any special instructions from the office of the Secretary of War."

"It will be seen, therefore, that army legislation begins its career in the Sixty-fourth Congress under auspices and influences which are not promising, at a time when it would be reasonable to expect no obstacles that are of any great moment beyond the legitimate difficulty, sufficient in itself, of converting a technical subject into acceptable legislative form. The War Department might have contributed its share of helping at this juncture, and the fact that it has not done so but, on the contrary, made the situation all the harder to cope with, is not viewed with patience by those who will have the task of bringing order out of chaos."

Naval Board Will Meet

The third session of the naval consulting board, of which Mr. Edison is the president, will meet in New York on Wednesday night, holding a session also on the following day. In addition to the civilian members who are able to attend, there will be present Rear Admiral R. S. Griffin, engineer in chief of the navy; Rear Admiral Joseph Strauss, chief of ordnance of the navy; Chief Constructor D. W. Taylor, Capt. William Strother Smith, who has just assumed his duties in charge of what Secretary Daniels calls "the clearing house" of new inventions and the proposals of inventors and Capt. Mark L. Bristol, the director of naval aeronautics. The last-named officer will attend

the session in connection with the committee on aeronautics, which is a subject of increasing importance. Capt. Smith will for the first time meet the board in formal session. He has assumed his duties in the Navy Department in charge of all subjects which pertain to inventions of naval use. Many of the suggestions are necessarily of little or no value, and those which are entitled to serious consideration are transmitted by Capt. Smith to the bureau concerned.

It is intended that questions which require consideration or development or investigation on the part of specialists shall be brought to the attention of the consulting board. It is desired by Secretary Daniels to give as much encouragement as possible to those who are inclined to make suggestions of new devices that may prove of use in naval equipment. Most of the inventions which are submitted at present relate to submarine design, aeroplanes, and the method of protection against submarine attack, all matters which are engaging the consideration of the experts.

Fort Monroe Notes

Fort Monroe, Va., Dec. 18.—Capt. and Mrs. Johnson entertained at dinner recently for Col. and Mrs. Todd and Capt. and Mrs. W. C. Baker. Capt. and Mrs. Onstade gave a bridge party recently in honor of Capt. and Mrs. W. C. Baker, Capt. and Mrs. Haynes, Capt. and Mrs. Gulick, Capt. and Mrs. Shurtle, Col. and Mrs. Todd, Maj. and Mrs. Nugent, Lieut. and Mrs. G. W. Wilder, Capt. and Mrs. Harrison, Lincoln, Brigham and Hines, Mr. Ryall and Lieut. Woodbury.

Lieut. Coladay's guests at dinner recently were Maj. and Mrs. Little, Lieut. and Mrs. Ide and Lieut. E. S. Harrison. Capt. and Mrs. Arthur Fuller have arrived at the post.

Capt. Fuller will command one of the companies here.

Lieut. Grace, R. W. Wilson, Green and Buttgenbach have reported for their promotion examinations.

Maj. and Mrs. Little entertained at dinner for Col. and Mrs. Haynes, Col. and Mrs. Todd, Maj. and Mrs. Nugent, Maj. A. N. Stark, Mr. Ryall and Mr. and Mrs. George F. Adams.

Capt. and Mrs. K. C. Masteller have returned from leave to send their household effects to their new station, Fort Williams.

Maj. and Mrs. Nugent gave a dinner recently for Capt. and Mrs. Masteller and Capt. and Mrs. Lincoln.

District Signal Corps

Last Sunday about twenty members of the company turned up for drill at Fort Myer. Lieut. Miliken lectured on the make-up of the horse, and also upon the diseases to which the animal is subject. Through an unforeseen circumstance saddles were not delivered for use, as the truck which had been engaged to take them over broke down, so the men did not get any riding. However, another party will go to the fort today. Sergeant Burns is getting the company property into fine shape and now says

he can lay his hands on any particular article in the dark.

Corp. Johnson of the Virginia Signal Corps Company, paid the company a long visit last Tuesday night.

Sergeants Hammond and Reed have been designated as platoon leaders for the Second Platoon, with Sergt. George Potter as acting first sergeant.

The first 30 minutes of the drill period is being used for foot movements now, and the men are beginning to learn the discounted drill.

Heretofore, the entire period has been given up to signal instruction with the company divided into small classes.

Last Tuesday night the class in telegraphy found buzzers strung all around the room, so that, instead of being crowded around one table, they were spread out, and each man had to rely upon his own knowledge to get the stuff down.

The room now used for that instruction has been turned over to one of the new coast artillery companies, and when a new room is assigned the telegraph class, a permanent system of wires will be established, so that each man will have a station.

Inspection this winter will be held about March 1, and it is said that Capt. Gibbs, of the regular signal corps, will be inspecting officer.

Corp. Langdon, signal instructor, is working hard to bring the outfit up to date, and the men are responding readily to his suggestions.

The locker room has been enlarged by tearing out one partition, and the club room and locker room will be turned into one large room by removing the partition which now separates them.

Capt. Terry has moved his office to the room formerly used as the quartermaster's storeroom.

The drill floor has been turned over to one of the new batteries, and hereafter the drills will be held in the large building in the rear of the armory. The new drill hall is much larger than the old one, which was entirely inadequate, being much too narrow to maneuver a company in.

Fort Myer Notes

Fort Myer, Va., Dec. 18.—Col. Wilber E. Wilder has returned from Madison Barracks, N. Y., where he has been attending a court-martial.

Mrs. Mannus McCloskey returned recently from New York, where she visited relatives.

Lieut. and Mrs. George H. Paine are packing, prior to departure for Hawaii on the January transport.

Mr. and Mrs. John M. Culp entertained at dinner for twenty recently at the Chevy Chase Club in honor of Miss Beatrice Dulla.

Dr. and Mrs. Clemens W. McMillan had luncheon for ten recently.

Gen. and Mrs. Hugh L. Scott entertained at dinner recently for Secretary of War and Mrs. Garrison, the Assistant Secretary of War and Mrs. Breckinridge, Gen. and Mrs. Scriven, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Brownson, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Clover, Gen. and Mrs. Sanger, Col. and Mrs. Brewster, Miss Hensman, Miss Scott, Representative Merrill Moore and Col. Wilber E. Wilder.

Capt. and Mrs. Nelson E. Margetts have as their guest Miss Margaret Carson, of New York.

Maj. and Mrs. McCloskey had a dinner for ten recently.

The small grandson of Gen. and Mrs. Hugh L. Scott, Master Lynn Scott, and little Miss Felicia Jones, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Clarence N. Jones, are quite ill with whooping cough.

Mrs. Charles T. Mencher received the guests at a tea-dance recently. Mrs. Kuhn and Mrs. Alchire presided at the tea table.

Mrs. Marlborough Churchill was guest of Capt. and Mrs. Augustine McIntyre recently.

Capt. Duncan Elliott has returned to the post from leave.

Master Jack Cunningham, son of Mrs. M. K. Cunningham, has returned from Walter Reed Hospital, where he underwent an operation on his nose, which was broken during a football game.

Capt. Augustine McIntyre recently gave a very interesting illustrated lecture on his experience in Austria-Hungary during his stay there as military observer.

Mrs. A. C. Ducat gave a bridge-tee for Mesdames Glasgow, Cameron, Graves, Babbitt, Hobbs, Hunt, McFarland, Hunter and Canby. Mrs. Winn and Mrs. Earnworth presided at the tea table.

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been announced in orders. All midshipmen who conduct and scholastic standing warrants will be permitted to leave Annapolis over Christmas. Studies and recitations will be suspended from midday on December 24 to evening roll call on Sunday, December 25. Drills will be suspended from December 24 until January 2. Upon written request, unreserved leave will be given to first-class men who are not under restriction, and to second-class men on first conduct grade, and who have an average of 25 or better in studies. The third class will receive liberty upon the same terms to visit relatives and friends; members of the fourth class only to visit relatives.

The orders of the Secretary of the Navy dismissing three midshipmen from the Naval Academy were read on Wednesday at the dinner formation. The names of the dismissed midshipmen are Daniel S. Appleton, of Georgia, Edwin D. King, of New York, and Lyle C. De Vaux, of Missouri. Repeated violations of the regulations were the cause.

The Pennsylvania University Glee Club gave a concert recently in the auditorium, which was enjoyed by the midshipmen and their friends.

Mrs. E. W. Eberle received recently, assisted by Mrs. H. H. Clark and Mrs. Henry H. Hough.

West Point Notes

West Point, Dec. 18.—Capt. and Mrs. Godfrey gave a delightful musical evening recently. Those taking part were Mrs. Godfrey, piano; Miss Laura Tappan, cellist, and Miss Frances Golden, violinist in "Tchaikowsky Trio."

Tea was poured by Mrs. Miner and Mrs. S. S. Stearns. Among the guests were Col. and Mrs. Wilcox, Col. and Mrs. Stuart, Gen. and Mrs. Lockwood, Mesdames Townsley, Reilly, North, Cunningham, Householder, Crissey, Capt. and Mesdames Rethers, Goethals, Harrington, Dunwoody, Lieut. and Mesdames Catts, Manley, Miner, Stearns, Purdon, Wildrick, Mr. and Mrs. Mayers, Miss Julia Flebeger, Miss Farnham, Miss Richardson, Col. Echols, Col. Smith, Capt. Steese, Lieut. Brice, Mr. Asensio and Dr. Ames.

Lieut. and Mrs. Morrison and baby are guests of Col. and Mrs. Stuart.

Lieut. Morrison will be on duty in the Department of Modern Languages. Mrs. Downing and the baby have returned to the post.

Norfolk Navy Yard

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 18.—Lieut. and Mrs. A. G. Zimmermann left recently for Washington.

Mrs. John S. Barlow has returned from New York to Portsmouth, where she is spending the winter with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Old.

Ensign and Mrs. Joseph Y. Dreisontok, who were married in Norfolk recently by Rev. Father O'Donnell, have returned from their wedding trip to Washington, where their marriage was a great surprise to both families. They were given a large reception by Ensign Dreisontok's parents at their home in Eighteenth street.


Lieut. E. B. Lapham, of Boston, Mass., is spending his leave with Harry Folks, Freeman street.

Annapolis Notes

Annapolis, Md., Dec. 18.—Christmas leave of an uncommonly liberal kind has

Give Your Order Now for Your Christmas Wines and Liquors


Get your order in now before the rush, then you will be sure nothing will be forgotten and everything will be delivered on time. Of course, at the top of the list will be



Oronoco

WHISKEY

The Whiskey of the rich, mellow flavor that has won the premier place of the festive season. Use it for the best kind of Eggnog—serve it straight or in highballs—your best friends will appreciate its flavor—as smooth as fresh milk. You need a good whiskey in your home for the holiday season—you cannot get a better than



Special Flask of Oronoco

Here is a special Christmas offer. A full half-pint genuine black Morocco leather flask, with nickel drinking cup top—filled with Oronoco Whiskey. This flask alone retails regularly at \$1.00—the half pint of Oronoco Rye is worth 25c. We sell the flask filled for

75c

Oronoco Rye Prices

Our prices for Oronoco Rye delivered any place in the city—

\$1.00 Full Quart
\$3.50 Gallon, in Glass Jug
 By express, prepaid, to Maryland and Virginia—\$4.00 for four full quarts; \$3.75 a gallon, in glass jug.

THREE FULL QUARTS OF WINE FOR \$1.00

Our Holiday Special.

One full quart of California Muscatel.
 One full quart of California Tokay.
 One full quart of New York Sweet Catawba.

All Three for \$1.00.

Exceptional Value.

These are full quart bottles, and the wines are the finest quality—full 5 years old. \$1.00 for the three bottles.

COCKTAILS

Oronoco brand of Manhattan, Martini, Whiskey and Gin Cocktails are ready to use and serve—only the best ingredients are used.

EGGNOG

You'll enjoy your Christmas Eggnog thoroughly if you use these ingredients—Oronoco Rye, of course.

NEW ENGLAND RUM—Full Quart, \$1.00
PURE CALIFORNIA GRAPE BRANDY—41, \$1.25
FULL QUARTS, \$1.25. FULL PINTS, 65c.

CORDIALS

Enjoy them after the Christmas dinner. The best imported.

Alouette, bottle, \$1.75
Crème de Menthe, bottle, \$2.00
Crème de Cacao, bottle, \$2.00
 The best domestic cordials.
Crème de Menthe, bottle, \$1.00
Kummel, bottle, \$1.25
Alouette, bottle, \$1.00

DINNER WINES.

We have a complete assortment of the finest domestic Champagnes.

Great Western, Gold Seal, Cook's Imperial, Grand Imperial Sec, and White Shield—Pints, \$1.00; quarts, \$1.60.

DOMESTIC WINES.

California Sauternes, 50c a bottle. \$5.00 a case.
 California Claret, 30c a bottle. \$3.00 a case.
 California Burgundy, 50c a bottle. \$5.00 a case.

IMPORTED CHAMPAGNES
 Mumm's Extra Dry and White Seal, \$2.00 a pint. \$4.00 a quart.



D. J. O'CONNELL, 636 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Phone Your Order—Main 761.